

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING CORPSMAN 2ND CLASS CHARLES LUKE MILAM

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sacrifice of a fallen hero and Marine from my district, Corpsman 2nd Class Charles Luke Milam of Littleton. Petty Officer Milam was killed on September 25 during combat operations in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan.

Petty Officer Milam was killed while serving on his fourth deployment overseas; this being his first to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Since joining the Navy following his high school graduation in 1999, Charles carried on a family tradition of service to his nation. He was just 26 years old.

Petty Officer Milam was assigned to the 2nd Marine Special Operations Battalion of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Camp in Lejeune, North Carolina. He attended basic training in Illinois before graduating from Naval Hospital Corps School Camp in Lejeune. He then went on to train at the John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center before his deployment.

Charles was born in Albuquerque, New Mexico but found his home in Colorado after he moved with his family to Littleton in 1992. After graduating from Columbine High School, he pursued a lifelong ambition of serving his country by enlisting in the Navy.

Petty Officer Milam was a decorated Marine and steadfast patriot; an American who honored the principles of freedom and democracy by courageously defending them from tyranny and oppression. His life, characterized by service and commitment, is a testament to the best America has to offer.

Madam Speaker, my most heartfelt condolences go out to Charles's family and friends. He will be missed by all those who knew and loved him.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JO PICONE

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay great honor to Jo Picone, a Radiologic Technologist from Hartford, CT, who has dedicated her life to the care of others. Since 1948, Jo has worked to ensure the health and well-being of her patients, children, and community. Indeed, although she officially retired from her 38-year ER career in 2000, the 78-year-old continues to work part-time at an outpatient clinic.

The daughter of Italian immigrants, Jo graduated from the Massachusetts School of Physical Therapy and Medical Technology, and completed her clinical training at Massachu-

setts General and Beth Israel hospitals in Boston. She received further training at St. Luke's Hospital in New Bedford, Massachusetts. As a student, Ms. Picone found that she loved the art and science of radiology, as well as the patient care. And this love has certainly stayed with her through the years.

While in Boston, Jo was secretary of the Massachusetts Society of Radiologic Technologists. Through this position, she was able to meet influential members of the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT), an organization with which she has worked closely. For over 50 years now, Jo has been involved with ASRT and state affiliate functions.

Her career progressed in Massachusetts; she became a senior technologist at Marlboro Hospital and then chief technologist at Boston State Hospital. It was there that she met and fell in love with Angelo Picone, a psychiatric social worker. They married and moved to Connecticut, where Angelo worked in the Hartford school system. Together, they raised 6 children—five boys and a girl. Though she stayed home when they were young, Jo worked 60-hour weeks in the ER at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center to put each of her children through college.

Jo is well-respected among her colleagues. Many recognize her tireless work on Connecticut's first licensure bill that passed in 1993. Jo is also known for her advocacy in DC in support of the Consistency, Accuracy, Responsibility and Excellence in Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy bill (H.R. 583), of which I am a cosponsor.

Jo retired in 2000 after 33 years in the emergency room at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center in Hartford, Connecticut. However, she continues to work at a Saint Francis outpatient clinic throughout the week. Jo also volunteers at Saint Francis for the teen safety program, "Let's Not Meet by Accident," which educates new drivers in high school about the effects of poor decisionmaking.

Jo is truly in possession of an upbeat attitude and zest for her profession. Co-workers know her as someone who is fun to be around and full of life. According to one, "She can out-work anyone half her age." I have had the personal experience of having her treat family members with care, professionalism, and the warmth that comes from a nurturing soul.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring the tremendous work and service of Jo Picone. Jo lives by the words of baseball legend Jackie Robinson "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." I am honored to know such a remarkable individual.

INTRODUCING STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE

HON. MIKE FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. FERGUSON. Madam Speaker, my colleague from Utah, Mr. MATHESON, and I are introducing legislation to improve public health and specifically to provide a more comprehensive approach to combat antimicrobial resistance. Simply put, the "bad bugs" evolve and build resistance to our antibiotics and we need to do more to keep up with them.

As a member of the Energy & Commerce Committee, I and my colleagues, recently completed reauthorization of the user fees supporting drug and device approvals by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The bill included several provisions aimed at enhancing antibiotic research and development and improving the resistance information available. New antibiotics are an important part of addressing this problem, but a multipronged approach is necessary to make a significant difference.

The story of a young, active 17-year-old girl, Rebecca, from New Jersey caught my attention. Rebecca lost her life due to methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA), an antibiotic-resistant infection. Her mother, Linda, is willing to share her daughter's story because she was a public health nurse for 15 years and she wants us all to learn from their tragic experience.

Rebecca's death changed her family, and it should change us too. For more than a decade there have been countless studies and reports proving antimicrobial resistance is a real and growing problem. The Institutes of Medicine, the World Health Organization, the Infectious Diseases Society of America, have all helped to define the problem. The data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have demonstrated the growing trend in resistant infections. We have missed opportunities to swiftly identify and address resistant infections allowing the spread of these bad bugs—these infections don't recognize state or national borders.

Nearly seven years ago, the Interagency Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance published (in January 2001) its Public Health Action Plan to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance. The Action Plan identifies 13 "top priority" action items regarding surveillance, research and education. Regrettably, there has not been adequate funding to implement even the top priority items of the plan and this is an area that will benefit from improved leadership and coordination—especially because it is an issue that crosses many agencies and requires involvement from all stakeholders.

The Strategies To Address Antimicrobial Resistance (STAAR) Act enhances leadership at HHS to work with the various agencies and solicit outside expertise. It reauthorizes and

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enhances the current Interagency Task Force on Antimicrobial Resistance, section 319E of the Public Health Service Act. The bill improves data collection on antibiotic use, supports education to encourage appropriate use of antibiotics and provides an organized system of surveillance and isolate collection.

New Jersey, like other states in the Northeast, has a unique problem that is quickly spreading to other parts of the country—the emergence of *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, a bacteria that is resistant to almost all antibiotics available on the market. The trend was not immediately noticed and as a result, the bacterium spread to other parts of the country. The STAAR Act establishes Antimicrobial Resistance Clinical Research and Public Health Network sites which will be coordinated across the United States to improve our information about emerging infections, as well as conduct and support research.

This is an issue that requires action, not more study and more talk. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation to combat antimicrobial resistance.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today in support of H. Res. 590, which supports the goals and ideals of domestic violence awareness month and expresses that Congress should continue to raise awareness of domestic violence in the United States and its devastating effects on families and communities.

Domestic violence is a serious and pervasive problem in America and throughout the world. According to the Family Violence Prevention Fund, estimates on the number of incidents of violence against a current or former spouse range from 960,000 to 3 million each year; and more than 3 women are murdered by their husband or boyfriend in America every day.

Without question, these statistics are alarming and must be taken seriously. I truly believe that together, we can eliminate domestic violence from homes across the country and ensure that our children grow up in a healthy and peaceful environment.

In order to achieve this change, Congress must continue to pass laws that protect the rights of victims and punish their abusers. In 1994, Congress passed Violence Against Women Act, VAWA, which provided an additional \$1.6 billion to enhance investigation and prosecution of violent crimes against women and allowed civil redress in cases prosecutors chose to leave unprosecuted. The results from this legislation are tangible and encouraging, between 1993 and 2004, domestic violence in the United States declined significantly, with nonfatal incidents dropping more than 50 percent, according to data from the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Nonfatal incidents of intimate partner violence fell from 5.8 per 1,000 residents in 1993 to 2.6 victimizations per 1,000 in 2005.

In 2005, I worked with my colleagues to make further improvements to VAWA by also recognizing male victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. In its current form VAWA has so profoundly changed the way our Government prosecutes these crimes that the National Organization of Women heralded the bill as “the greatest breakthrough in civil rights for women in nearly two decades.”

Today, as we recognize National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we must remember that there is still plenty of work to do to eradicate domestic violence from our homes and communities.

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY ANTONIO “TONY” POMERLEAU

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today in celebration of the 90th birthday of a truly remarkable Vermonter, Antonio “Tony” Pomerleau.

When Tony was 3 years old, he fell down a flight of stairs, injuring himself so seriously that he was forced to wear an iron corset and doctors said he wouldn’t make it past his 12th birthday. Clearly, Tony saw things differently, and today, on his 90th birthday, we express our deep appreciation for all that he has given to our state.

As an entrepreneur, police chief, philanthropist, and community leader, from his service as a trustee at St. Michael’s College to his annual Christmas dinner party for underprivileged children, Tony has positively influenced the lives of thousands of Vermonters.

Tony’s entrepreneurial spirit shone through at an early age when he would sell haircuts, wash cars, and help in his family’s store. In 1942, he bought a failing grocery store. Three years later, he had not only turned that grocery store around, he owned three more stores and a wholesale beverage business.

In 1951, he entered real estate. He built the Ethan Allen Shopping Plaza, the first shopping center in Vermont. Today, “Pomerleau Real Estate” is a household name across Vermont.

But Tony’s skill in business is more than matched by his generosity of spirit. Tony is perhaps most well known for his annual Christmas dinners which he started in 1982. In 2004, he expanded the tradition, hosting a party for the families of Vermont Guardsmen and women deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In addition, he served for many years as a trustee at St. Michael’s College, has endowed scholarships at Rice Memorial High School, and been a leading supporter of the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and the United Way of Chittenden County.

As the Burlington Free Press, our state’s largest newspaper, said it so well in naming Tony the 2006 Vermonter of the Year, “Everyone has a seat at Tony Pomerleau’s table.”

Thank you Tony, for all that you do to make Vermont such a wonderful place, and congratulations on a very special birthday.

RECOGNIZING COLORADO PARK COUNTY AND JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF’S OFFICES AND PLATTO CANYON AND ELK CREEK FIRE DEPARTMENTS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and recognize the heroic actions of the Park County Sheriff’s office, Jefferson County Sheriff’s office, Platte Canyon Fire Department, and the Elk Creek Fire Department for their quick response to the hostage standoff that occurred at Platte Canyon High School on Wednesday, September 27, 2006.

On that morning at 11:40 a.m., a deranged man entered an English class, taking six students hostage at gunpoint. Over several terrifying and horrific hours, four were released. As the tense minutes dragged on, the officers knew that they had to act quickly if the remaining two girls were to be rescued.

Committed to saving the lives of these two young women, the Park County Sheriff gave the go ahead order and the officers charged into the classroom, unaware of what they would confront. Their courageous acts saved one young life, but the other was taken by a madman determined to kill.

The brutal and senseless murder of 16-year-old Emily Keyes devastated the mountain town. Home to around 7,650 Coloradans, Bailey is a tight-knit community where everyone knows one another, often by name. It is this bond that has provided solace for the town as it continues to heal and to grieve.

We cannot hope to understand what would motivate a person to commit such an evil and heartless act. Yet, as we remember the one-year anniversary of this senseless tragedy, and lament the tremendous losses suffered by the community of Bailey, we must also praise the courageous efforts of these first responders. The rapid and selfless actions of the police and fire departments almost surely precluded further loss of life, and for that the people of my district and the State of Colorado are grateful.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2881, FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2007

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of this rule and of the underlying bill. I am proud of H.R. 2881, The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007, and I commend Chairman OBERSTAR and my good friend, Subcommittee Chairman COSTELLO, for their thorough work on this legislation.

Our committee has worked very hard on this bill. We held many hearings and heard from countless representatives of the aviation industry—including airlines, manufacturers, airports, labor groups, and passenger coalitions. The result of those hearings was this fine